



Practitioner's Docket No. 2682/102

PATENT

AF / JFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Refaat S. Fanous
Application No.: 10/616,707
Filed: 07/10/2003
For: Self-Retaining Retractor

Group No.: 3732
Examiner: Michael J. Araj

**RESPONSE UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP**

Corres. and Mail
BOX AF

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT OR RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION--TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment after final rejection (37 C.F.R. 1.116) for this application.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10*

(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is **mandatory**;
Express Mail certification is **optional**.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

[X] deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

[X] with sufficient postage as first class mail.

37 C.F.R. § 1.10*

as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"
Mailing Label No. _____ (**mandatory**)

TRANSMISSION

facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office. (703) _____


Signature

Date: February 1, 2006

Robert A. Hess

(type or print name of person certifying)

* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

STATUS

2. Applicant is a small entity.

EXTENSION OF TERM

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col.1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	SMALL ENTITY
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL 7	MINUS 43	= 0	x \$ 25.00 = \$ 0.00
INDEP 2	MINUS 5	= 0	x \$ 100.00 = \$ 0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM		+ \$ 0.00	= \$ 0.00
		TOTAL \$ 0.00	ADDIT. FEE

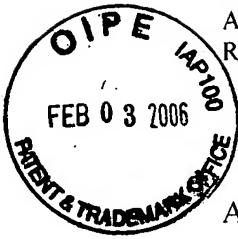
No additional fee for claims is required.

Please charge any fees required by this paper to deposit account number 19-4972.

Date: February 1, 2006


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Application Serial No.: 10/616,707
Amendment dated February 1, 2006
Response to Office Action dated January 24, 2006



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Fanous Att'y Docket: 2682/102
App. No.: 10/616,707 Art Unit: 3732
Filing Date: July 10, 2003 Examiner: M. Araj
For: Self-retaining Retractor Date: February 1, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 1, 2006



Robert A. Hess

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED January 24, 2006

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action mailed January 24, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows in order to put the application in condition for allowance:

A **Listing of Claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4.